

Remarks

Kindly consider the following remarks in response to the office action dated 11/8/2006.

Claims 1-6 are pending in the application. Claims 5 and 6 are withdrawn from consideration. Applicants reserve the right to file a divisional application to those withdrawn claims.

Claims 1-4 have been rejected under 35 USC §102(a) as being anticipated by Saxena et al. (Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology, May 2003). Applicants traverse that rejection.

Submitted herewith is a declaration by two of the named co-authors of that publication indicating that they did not make an original contribution to the publication. In words of the declaration, paragraph 4, Mr. Murthy and Mr. Muralidhar state “that this” referring to the “publication originated with or were obtained from Shweta Saxena, Taruna Madan, and/or Puranam Usha Sarma”, who are the inventors of the present application. Consequently, the applied reference is not an appropriate prior art reference.

For these reasons, applicants respectfully submit that the rejection has been overcome and should be respectfully withdrawn.

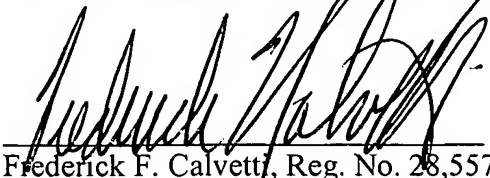
Regarding the comments about priority they are now irrelevant in view of the foregoing comments.

Allowance of the present application is earnestly solicited.

If any additional fees under 37 C. F. R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17 are due in connection with this filing, please charge the fees to Deposit Account No. 02-4300, Order No. 041144.0071CIP.

Respectfully submitted,
SMITH, GAMBRELL & RUSSELL, LLP

By:



Frederick F. Calvetti, Reg. No. 28,557
1850 M Street, N.W., Suite 800
Washington, D.C. 20036
Telephone: (202) 263-4300
Facsimile: (202) 263-4329

Dated: January 25, 2007

Enclosure: **Affidavit/Declaration of Kolluri J.R. Murthy and Kambadur Muralidhar (3 pages)**